

Navajo-Churro Sheep Association & Snake River Fiber Fair Raw Fiber Competition

The Navajo-Churro Sheep Association and the Snake River Fiber Fair are happy to announce that a fiber competition will be held during the 2010 fair. The featured breed will be Navajo-Churros but all fibers are welcome. Please read the below fiber division rules and fill out the entry form. Judging will take place on Saturday, May 15, 2010 and is open for viewing.

All entries need to be brought to Eastern Idaho Technical College on 1600 East 25th South, Idaho Falls. No mail in entries will be accepted. Entries can be dropped off:

Friday, May 14 4:00 pm -- 5:30 pm

Saturday, May 15 8:00 am – 11:00 am

No entries will be taken after 11:00 am May 15th. The judging will start at 1:00 pm and is open to the public.

1. Fleeces must be from animals owned by the exhibitor at the time of harvest
2. Entries must not have been processed in any way (washed, combed, dehaired, or brushed)
3. Entries must have been shorn within 18 months of exhibiting
4. Fleeces must be fully skirted, reasonably clean and free of infestation.
5. Fleeces should not be tied
6. All fleeces should be in see through plastic bags that are not too small for the fleece, with only one fleece per bag.

Divisions: Classes:

1. Navajo-Churro

1. *First Shearing (All sexes)
2. Ewe Fleece
3. Ram Fleece
4. Wether Fleece

2. Fine Wool

1. Lamb Fleece (All sexes)
2. Ewe Fleece
3. Ram Fleece
4. Wether Fleece

Division Classes

3. Medium Wool

1. Lamb Fleece (All sexes)
2. Ewe Fleece
3. Ram Fleece
4. Wether Fleece

4. Other Coarse Wool Breeds

1. Lamb Fleece (All sexes)
2. Ewe Fleece
3. Ram Fleece
4. Wether Fleeces

5. Other Fibers

1. Angora Goat
2. Mohair Goat
3. Llama
4. Alpaca
5. Rabbit

* First Shearing means that the animal must not be over 14 months of age when first shorn.

Judge: Ingrid Painter

I have been interested in all types of rare breeds of domestic animals all my life. I was founding member of the American Minor Breeds Conservancy and served on their technical advisory committee for a time.

My first Navajo Churro were bought in 1974. Later I added the Jacob breed. Several years later I bought a group of Shetlands that had been imported in 1946 and through the International Rare Breeds was able to get them accepted into the North American Shetland Sheep Association's registry, USA. I was a Charter member of the Natural Colored Sheep Association, founding member of the Jacob Sheep Breeders Association, the Navajo-Churro Sheep Association and the North West's Shepherd's Extravaganza.

I have been an inspector for both the Jacob and the Navajo-Churro since the associations first began.

I have taken classes in wool grading from Glen Eidman and from Elliot Monroe and have judged sheep and wool shows in many States in the US and in Canada since 1980. I taught spinning for several years and have worked in all types of wool application from weaving to needle art.

I am author of many published articles on sheep and wool and have published the book "Jacob Sheep in America". I have had a lifelong commitment to the Navajo-Churro and Jacob as well as sheep in general and am proud to have pioneered the acceptance of showing the less known breeds. Our sheep from Puddleduck Farm were the first Champion Jacob ram and ewe in North America

